

Message Text

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ORIGIN OFA-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CG-00 DOTE-00 DLOS-03 L-02

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DRAFTED BY OES/OFA:NSCHOWENGERDT:CSA

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USCG:CDR LYNN (SUBS)

D/LOS:OESKIN (DRAFT)

L/OES:MBWEST

DOD/ISA:COL. ENGLE (SUBS)

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R 191629Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

INFO COMDT COGARD WASHDC

CDR COAST GUARD PACIFIC AREA SAN FRANCISCO CA

DIR SW REGION NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SVC SAN DIEGO CA

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE WASHDC

CDR COGARD DISTRICT TWELVE SAN FRANCISCO CA

CDR COGARD DISTRICT ELEVEN LONG BEACH CA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, PLOS, OCLR, PBOR, MX

SUBJECT: IATTC ENFORCEMENT, OVERFLIGHT/LANDING CLEARANCES

FOR USCG AIRCRAFT

REF: A. STATE 280948 (DEC 74) AND PREVIOUS;

B. MEXICO 0037

1. REFTELS PROVIDE BACKGROUND FOR DIPLOMATIC NOTE INCLUDED
BELOW ON IATTC ENFORCEMENT FLIGHTS. DEPT CONCURS WITH EMBASSY
THAT NO SPECIFIC ADVANCE NOTICE REQUIREMENT SUCH AS 72 HOURS
SHOULD BE REQUIRED; JUST NOTICE PRIOR TO ACFT CROSSING INTO
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MEXICAN TERRITORY. THIS WOULD BE IDEAL SITUATION.

2. EMBASSY REQUESTED PRESENT NOTE AT APPROPRIATE FONMIN LEVEL WITH COMMENT WE ARE AT BEGINNING OF NEW IATTC CLOSURE SEASON AND NEED FOR FLIGHTS CAN BE EXPECTED ANYTIME NOW. (IN FACT, ONE FLIGHT HAS ALREADY OCCURRED BUT DID NOT OVERFLY OR LAND IN MEXICO SINCE LOCATIONS OF SUSPECTED AMERICAN VESSELS DID NOT REQUIRE ITE.) EMBASSY SHOULD STRESS PERISHABILITY OF DIRECTION FINDING NETWORK POSITION DATA AND CONSEQUENT NEED FOR RAPID AIRCRAFT RESPONSE TO REPORTED VIOLATIONS.

HENCE PURPOSE THIS

NOTE IS TO OBTAIN CLEARANCE IN PRINCIPLE NOW FOR ALL SUCH FLIGHTS WITH SPECIFIC FLIGHT PLAN INFO TO BE FURNISHED AS EACH FLIGHT OCCURS. THIS WILL ENABLE U.S. EFFECTIVELY CARRY OUT ITS IATTC OBLIGATIONS.

3. IF GOM APPEARS RELUCTANT GRANT CLEARANCE, EMBASSY MAY OFFER SPACE FOR MEXICAN FISHERIES OBSERVER ON SELECTED FLIGHTS WHICH LAND IN MEXICO ENROUTE TO ACTUAL PATROL AREA AS AN INDUCEMENT. SINCE SOME FLIGHTS GO DIRECTLY TO PATROL AREA FROM U.S., THIS WOULD NOT ALWAYS BE POSSIBLE; BUT WHEN IT IS POSSIBLE, AIRPORT WOULD USUALLY BE ACAPULCO. OF COURSE FLIGHT SHOULD NOT BE DELAYED BY WAITING FOR OBSERVER DUE DATA PERISHABILITY.

4. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED NOTE: (COMPLIMENTARY OPENING)

QUOTE: THE UNITED STATES, AS A MEMBER OF THE INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION, HAS AN OBLIGATION TO ENSURE THAT U.S. FISHERMEN ADHERE TO THE CONSERVATION RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMISSION. IN ORDER TO CARRY OUT THIS RESPONSIBILITY, IT IS NECESSARY TO OCCASIONALLY UNDERTAKE AERIAL SURVEILLANCE OF UNITED STATES VESSELS IN ORDER TO VERIFY THEIR LOCATIONS. THE UNITED STATES HAS ON THE AVERAGE MADE APPROXIMATELY SIX SUCH FLIGHTS PER YEAR, USING C-130 CARGO PLANES BELONGING TO THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD. THEY HAVE STANDARD RADIO AND NAVIGATIONAL CAPABILITIES, AND CONTAIN NO SOPHISTICATED MILITARY ELECTRONIC GEAR OR EQUIPMENT. THE ONLY FUNCTION OF THESE FLIGHTS IS TO VERIFY THE LOCATION OF UNITED STATES TUNA VESSELS WHICH ARE SUSPECTED OF BEING IN VIOLATION OF THE CONSERVATION REGULATIONS.

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FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO HAS PERMITTED THESE UNITED STATES AIRCRAFT TO LAND IN ITS TERRITORY IN CONJUNCTION WITH THEIR ENFORCEMENT FLIGHTS. SUCH PERMISSION HAS BEEN INVALUABLE TO THE UNITED STATES IN FULFILLING ITS RESPONSIBILITIES AS AN IATTC MEMBER, SINCE DUE TO THE LONG DISTANCES INVOLVED IT IS NECESSARY TO LAND IN ORDER TO REFUEL. AS THE PURPOSE OF THESE FLIGHTS IS TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER OR

NOT UNITED STATES TUNA VESSELS ARE FISHING WITHIN THE CONVENTION AREA OF THE IATTC, IT IS CRITICAL THAT THE SURVEILLANCE BE UNDERTAKEN VERY SOON AFTER RADIO DIRECTION FINDING REPORTING INDICATES A PROBABLE VIOLATION. IN PREVIOUS YEARS, THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT HAS PERMITTED THE AIRCRAFT USED FOR THIS PURPOSE TO LAND ON A VERY TIMELY BASIS, AND THIS HAS CONTRIBUTED GREATLY TO THE SUCCESS OF UNITED STATES ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES.

THE UNITED STATES GREATLY APPRECIATES THE COOPERATION OF MEXICO IN FACILITATING THIS ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY SO VITAL TO THE SUCCESS OF THE CONSERVATION PROGRAM OF THE IATTC. WHILE MEXICO CERTAINLY HAS NO LEGAL OBLIGATION UNDER THE CONVENTION TO GRANT THIS PERMISSION, IT IS CLEARLY IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF ALL RESPONSIBLE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION TO DO WHAT THEY CAN TO ENSURE THAT THE CONSERVATION RECOMMENDATIONS ARE BEING FOLLOWED. THE UNITED STATES HOPES THAT MEXICO WILL CONTINUE IN THE FUTURE TO DEMONSTRATE THIS CO-OPERATIVE SPIRIT IN THE CONSERVATION OF THE YELLOWFIN TUNA RESOURCES OF THE EASTERN TROPICAL PACIFIC OCEAN.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES THEREFORE SEEKS THE CLEARANCE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO FOR THESE FUTURE FLIGHTS AND PROPOSES THAT WHEN IT APPEARS NECESSARY TO FLY OVER MEXICAN TERRITORY OR LAND AT AN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IN MEXICO THAT THE APPROPRIATE UNITED STATES AUTHORITIES SHALL ADVISE THE APPROPRIATE MEXICAN AUTHORITIES OF THE AIRCRAFT IDENTIFICATION AND BASIC FLIGHT PLAN INFORMATION PRIOR TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE ENTRY OF THE AIRCRAFT INTO MEXICO AIRSPACE. (UNQUOTE) (COMPLIMENTARY (CLOSE). INGERSOLL

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